

# Council Connections

## Parents, Teachers, All of Us

### Message from Our Council President

Happy New Year! Hope 2021 has started well for you!

2020 is behind us. It challenged us to reflect on what truly matters, rethink our ways, and reimagine the possibilities! With those reimagined possibilities, we are ready to make 2021 an awesome year TOGETHER for our Round Rock ISD PTA community! Yes, COVID-19 continues to be part of our reality, presenting new challenges, asking us to be flexible and understanding. With our vibrant community, we also have diverse perspectives and scenarios — each equally important. While there can not be one-size-fits-all solutions to such scenarios, we are thankful to have our awesome District Leadership, Administrators, Teachers, and staff helping us navigate these turbulent times. January is School Board Recognition Month. Please join me in thanking our dedicated Board of trustees who work with our District and allow the flexibility that these testing times demand. We sincerely appreciate them all!

What are your plans for your community for 2021? We can't wait to hear from you all! Remember, you are never alone in PTA! Your entire PTA community is with you! Council PTA is here to help you, and we are thankful to have so many awesome community partners as well. Texas PTA has been diligently guiding all our PTAs to navigate through these times with flexibility and focus on our PTA mission — "To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children." Your Council PTA Team also has been working hard and has several updates for you — from National PTA Grants to (virtual) Rally Day activities! So many exciting opportunities!!! Check out the details in this newsletter, and stay tuned to our website [rrisdpta.org](http://rrisdpta.org) and social media @RRISDPTA.

Thank You ALL for leading your fronts like superheroes through the first half of this school year, and I am confident that you will find ways to make the most of 2021 for our wonderful PTA community while keeping everyone safe. Regardless of varied opinions, you have demonstrated that we can work together as one awesome Round Rock ISD PTA community. Let us continue to be flexible and understanding. Let us choose our words and actions with kindness and focus on what truly matters. Let us be mindful of what we want to remember when we look back at 2021 in the future. Yes, we are the leaders, and with our choices and actions, we are shaping the present and the future!! We can do it! We can THRIVE!! Let's make 2021 an AWESOME year for our wonderful community TOGETHER!!!

Sincerely,  
Snehal Phirke  
President, RRISD Council of PTAs

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# 2020-21 Council PTA Executive Board Roster

President	Snehal Phirke	president@rrisdpta.org
1st VP of Membership	Randall Goltzman	membership@rrisdpta.org
2nd VP of Training	Jill Strode	training@rrisdpta.org
3rd VP of Communications	OPEN	communications@rrisdpta.org
4th VP of Hospitality	Melissa Schmalbach	hospitality@rrisdpta.org
5th VP of Programs	Melissa Hoskin	programs@rrisdpta.org
6th VP of Fundraising	OPEN	fundraising@rrisdpta.org
Treasurer	Liz Cantrell	treasurer@rrisdpta.org
Secretary	Beth Fitzmaurice	secretary@rrisdpta.org
Parliamentarian	Laura Podnar	parliamentarian@rrisdpta.org
<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>		
Advocacy	Heather Lawrence	advocacy@rrisdpta.org
Business Partner	OPEN	businesspartner@rrisdpta.org
Clothes Closet Chair	Cecelia Zapalac	clothescloset@rrisdpta.org
DADS (Dads of Amazing Daughters/Sons)	OPEN	DADS@rrisdpta.org
Diversity	Estevan Zarate	diversity@rrisdpta.org
Healthy Lifestyles	Kristen Hullum	healthylifestyles@rrisdpta.org
Philanthropy	Jerry Vasquez	philanthropy@rrisdpta.org
Reflections/Arts in Education	Monica Welch	reflections@rrisdpta.org
Scholarships	Tangelia Pruitt	scholarships@rrisdpta.org
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Directory	OPEN	directory@rrisdpta.org
Newsletter	Sara Gandaria-Escamilla	newsletter@rrisdpta.org
Webmaster	Michele Chan-Thomson	webmaster@rrisdpta.org
National PTA Liaison	Heidi Schoenberger-Cobert	PTAliaison@rrisdpta.org
<b>HOSPITALITY</b>		
Decorations Chair	Lori Cortez	decorations@rrisdpta.org
<b>RRISD &amp; PARTNERSHIPS</b>		
Acting Superintendent	Dr. Daniel Presley	superintendent_rrisd@roundrockisd.org
Community Partnership Sup	Rachael Sefton	rachael_sefton@roundrockisd.org
Coordinator, Title 1 Parent Programs	Sibyl Lee	sibyl_lee@roundrockisd.org
PIE Foundation	Marianne Reap	marianne_reap@rrisdeducationfoundation.org
Round Rock Chamber of Commerce	Jason Ball	jball@roundrockchamber.org

# 2020-21 Council PTA Officer Assignments

If you are in need of assistance, please contact the Officer listed for your campus. Our officers have or are currently serving as local PTA board members and are eager to help you succeed. Please also feel free to contact Council President, Snehal Phirke, 972.375.6377.

## **Randall Goltzman, 1st VP**

**membership@rrisdpta.org 512.632.7490**

[Anderson Mill ES](#)

[Caldwell Heights ES](#)

[CD Fulkes MS](#)

Cedar Ridge HS

Kathy Caraway ES

Laurel Mountain ES

Pearson Ranch MS

## **Jill Strode, 2nd VP**

**training@rrisdpta.org 512.423.4741**

Canyon Vista MS

Chandler Oaks ES

[Double File Trail ES](#)

[Live Oak ES](#)

McNeil HS

Old Town ES

Ridgeview MS

## **OPEN, 3rd VP**

**communications@rrisdpta.org**

Cedar Valley MS

Deep Wood ES

[Forest North ES](#)

Pond Springs ES

Round Rock HS

[Union Hill ES](#)

Walsh MS

## **Melissa Schmalbach, 4th VP**

**hospitality@rrisdpta.org 512.300.8329**

[Berkman ES](#)

[Bluebonnet ES](#)

Chisholm Trail MS

Elsa England ES

Fern Bluff ES

Stony Point HS

## **Melissa Hoskin, 5th VP**

**programs@rrisdpta.org 512.731.0791**

Brushy Creek ES

[Deerpark MS](#)

Great Oaks ES

Patsy Sommer ES

Robertson ES

Success HS

[Voigt ES](#)

## **OPEN**

**fundraising@rrisdpta.org**

Blackland Prairie ES

[Callison ES](#)

Herrington ES

Noel Grisham MS

Spicewood ES

[Wells Branch ES](#)

Westwood HS

## **Beth Fitzmaurice, Secretary**

**secretary@rrisdpta.org 512.769.2299**

Cactus Ranch ES

Forest Creek ES

[Gattis ES](#)

[Hernandez MS](#)

Purple Sage ES

RROC

## **Laura Podnar, Parliamentarian**

**parliamentarian@rrisdpta.org 512.574.5023**

Canyon Creek ES

Early College HS

Hopewell MS

[Joe Lee Johnson ES](#)

[Jollyville ES](#)

Teravista ES

BLUE = Title 1 Campus

# Message from District Leadership

## Acting RRISD Superintendent of Schools

### Dr. Daniel Presley



Happy New Year! I think we can all agree that 2020 was a challenging year, and we're all glad to see it in our rearview mirror. With vaccines now rolling out, I am hopeful that better days are in the not-too-distant future.

Speaking of the vaccine, Round Rock ISD leaders are doing everything in our power to advocate for school district staff members to receive the vaccine as soon as possible and to facilitate vaccinations for our employees in any way we can. Last month, Board of Trustees President Amy Weir and I [sent a letter](#) to Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, as well as other government officials, expressing our concern on this matter.

We are also in close contact with our healthcare provider partners to help facilitate opportunities for the vaccine to be provided to our staff members. Over Winter Break, with the help of the Williamson County and Cities Health District, we were able to offer the vaccine to all of our school nurses. And earlier this month [we partnered with Ascension Seton](#) in a pilot program that provided the opportunity for our employees 65 years old and over to receive the vaccine. Ascension Seton determined which group (65+) would receive the vaccine and made the determination on current vaccine availability.

It is important to note, however, that while we will continue to advocate and look for ways to partner and facilitate, the fact remains that who receives the vaccine and when is out of our hands as a school district. The distribution of the vaccine and the prioritization of who receives it is entirely in the purview of the State of Texas. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determine how many doses each state receives, then the state divides the supply. The Texas Department of State Health Services determines the amount each provider receives. Those providers are primarily hospitals, doctor's offices and pharmacies and, more recently, health departments.

The first group to be eligible to receive the vaccine, group 1A, includes healthcare workers, first responders like police officers and firefighters, and residents in long term care facilities. This month, Texas authorized providers to vaccinate people in group 1B, which includes those 65 and older and people with certain underlying conditions. However, Texas does not have nearly enough supply to vaccinate all of the people who currently fall into those categories.

As we work to secure more partnerships such as the one with Ascension Seton, we will keep our staff informed of opportunities to receive the vaccine. We are also exploring options for hosting vaccination clinics and are hopeful the supply will soon reach a level that will make that a possibility.

# Message from District Leadership

## RRISD School Board

Amy Weir, President, Place 5



The Board of Trustees has had a busy couple of months as we welcomed four new trustees and hit the ground running trying to tackle the many issues impacting our district, especially those concerning the Covid 19 crisis. To address the pandemic's learning loss and mental health concerns, the Board directed the Acting Superintendent to create a recovery plan, both for this year and next. In particular, for the 2021/2022 school year, the Board wanted the district to explore options that separate virtual and in-person learning modes, ending the hybrid learning model employed in most of the district this year. As TEA has yet to determine if virtual education will be funded next school year, the Board asked that the emphasis in the recovery plan be placed on in-person instruction. However, given the likelihood that the pandemic will continue into 2021/2022, the Board felt it was essential to plan for both options.

The Board also approved a \$500 retention and incentive payment for all staff members. This amount is a small token of our appreciation for all the hard work that teachers and staff have put into the district during the past year. The Board also encouraged the administration to pursue working with health care providers in the area to get our teachers and staff vaccinated as soon as possible. We are grateful for the progress that has been made to that end. There was a clinic with Ascension Seton for all teachers and staff over 65 in early January. And there was a vaccination clinic for all staff in the 1B category with Williamson County and Cities Health District on January 26, with over 1000 doses of vaccine available for staff that qualified. District Administration is working to notify teachers at every opportunity of vaccination clinics.

While the Covid 19 response dominates much of our focus, we are addressing other needs in the district. We are in the process of selecting a superintendent search firm, and with the firm's help, we hope to have a new superintendent selected by July 2021. The 2018 bond projects continue throughout the district. Most recently, the Board authorized the bond approved construction at CD Fulkes Middle School, which will transform that campus into a state-of-the-art facility while preserving the historic aspects. The Board also is improving public comment, enabling virtual speakers to address the Board even after the pandemic, while preserving the in-person option. All speakers will receive two minutes, regardless of the number registered. And those wishing to speak will have a longer window to sign up.

The Board is eager to train the trustees on the TEA Lone Star Governance program and has a two-day training scheduled. After that, we will begin revising our goals with the help of community input. To collect that input now and in the future, we are putting in place more two-way communication.

As the legislative session begins, the Board approved three legislative priorities, all related to ensuring adequate funding to meet our district's needs. We are advocating to our legislators and doing all we can to ensure the district has the resources to provide a world class education to our students, ensure their physical safety and mental well-being, and adequately compensate our teachers and staff.

As you can see, a lot is happening. While the challenges are significant, we are working diligently. We welcome your feedback and appreciate your support.

# Council PTA News

## COUNCIL CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

PTA leaders, Principals, District Leadership, District Partners, Business and Community PTA members, are all encouraged to submit a written contribution to our Council Connections Newsletter.

If you would like to be included, email a brief, 1/4 page length, article to the Council Connections PTA Newsletter Editor, Sara Gandaría-Escamilla at [newsletter@rrisdpta.org](mailto:newsletter@rrisdpta.org)

**Submission for the next Newsletter is due  
Friday, March 12, 2021**

A hard copy of the newsletter is distributed at each Delegate Luncheon Meeting and sent electronically to all executive board members whose names have been uploaded to Texas PTA Two Step. During the months when we do not have a Delegate Luncheon Meeting, a digital edition will be published and distributed by email.

**Have you joined the private  
RRISD PTA Facebook Group?**

**Find it by searching:  
RRISD Local PTA  
Board Q&A**

**It's a great place to share  
ideas and ask questions.**

### Stay Connected with your RRISD Council of PTAs



Website: <http://rrisdpta.org>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RRISDPTA>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RRISDPTA>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rrisdpta/>

# Council PTA COVID-19 Highlights

Tackling COVID-19 Together   

[RRISD COVID-19 Webpage](#)

[RRISD Home Learning HUB](#)

[RRISD Behavioral Health Support](#)

[Tips on Talking with Elementary Students](#)

[Tips on Talking with Secondary Students](#)

[Family Resources from National PTA](#)

[Guidelines for Meetings per Texas PTA](#)

[Virtual Meeting FAQs](#)

[Texas PTA Guidelines for Virtual Meetings](#)

[Overview of Guidelines Video](#)



Parents ... Teachers ... ALL of us!



# Council PTA Highlights

## Message From Our Treasurer

by Liz Cantrell, Treasurer  
RRISD Council of PTAs

Hello, Fellow Treasurers!

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful break and are ready to get a jump start on this new year!

As we dive into the second semester, please first check your email to make sure you are receiving communications from me ([treasurer@rrisd.pta.org](mailto:treasurer@rrisd.pta.org)), and the “Treasurer’s Corner” monthly emails from Texas PTA. As we move through the year, these messages contain a ton of valuable information that you will not want to miss. If you have not been receiving them, or if you are a new treasurer and haven’t registered yet, be sure to fill out Texas PTA’s Officer Intake Form here: [txpta.secure.force.com/OfficerIntake](https://txpta.secure.force.com/OfficerIntake)

The next thing we need to revisit is Sales Tax. All PTAs that hold a Sales and Use Tax Permit should have filed a Sales Tax Return by January 20, EVEN if you had no tax due. If you did not file a State Sales Tax return or are unsure if you are required to do so, please email me for assistance, or contact the State Comptroller’s Office.

Moving forward, now is also a good time to revisit our budgets. This has been a very different year, and with cancelled events and virtual learning, our fundraising and expenses may also be very different than what we hoped for while preparing our budgets last spring. Amending your budget to match what your actual income and expenses are to this point will help you determine what you have to work with

between now and the end of the year, so you can support your school community as efficiently as possible.

Remember, as we are zeroing out line items for fundraisers, events, and programs that we aren’t able to hold this year, it’s important to keep detailed notes for future executive boards to be able to understand the reasoning that went into these changes, so that they can use that information when making their own plans, hopefully in a time that finds us more back to “normal” and back to doing some of the things we’ve missed this year.

Once you have gotten your budget to match your actuals, be sure to visit with your executive board to see in what creative ways you can put your PTA budget to work for your school community. The year 2020 was a challenge for sure, but with challenge comes the chance for growth and innovation. We can still make a difference, even from home, and I challenge you to find a new way to make a positive change this year.

More information on amending your budget can be found in the TxPTA BASICS Treasurer Resource Guide, and as always, you’re welcome to email me with questions any time.

Happy Treasuring!





## Council PTA Highlights

### Advocacy Update

by Heather Lawrence,  
Advocacy Chair, RRISD Council of PTAs

Every two years when the legislature is in session, Texas PTA brings our many voices together for a jubilant day in Austin, culminating on the steps of the State Capitol. It is a day to exercise the mission of PTA: advocate for all children. Though we must reimagine how we gather this year, Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs is committed to bringing our members together on BAND, a one-stop-shop for Rally Day 2021. There will be content, chat, and live-streaming from 11 am to 1:30 pm.

[RSVP](#) today, and sign up for [BAND](#) to join the official Rally Day Band. It's free! Click [here](#) for further instructions on how to join the Rally Day Band.

In addition to raising our voices with Texas PTA on Rally Day, Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs is planning additional pre-Rally Day 2021 events!

**‘Postcards for Mental Health’ Campaign:** There is nothing like being at the Capitol for Rally Day standing shoulder to shoulder with all your PTA friends! A close second though is a well-written postcard. Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs is going to make it contactless this year as we try to reach our goal of 2600 postcards written to Legislators on funding Student Mental Health. It will be so easy! Just fill out the ‘Postcards for Mental Health’ Input Form and we do the rest. Your words, our stamps, sent straight to those that can make a difference.

**Facebook LIVE Events With Your Representatives:** Round Rock ISD has 6 elected officials in the Texas House and Senate. We will be inviting all of them to join us on [Facebook](#)

LIVE for individual conversations on what their educational legislative goals are for the 87th Session.

**‘Love Letters for Public Schools’ Email Campaign:** Starting the first week of February, let your representatives hear from you about school funding reform, keeping public dollars in public schools, mental health, school safety, student assessment or other issues of concern. Check the [Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs Facebook Page](#) weekly for *virtual email parties*, templates and tools that make advocating for your concerns, quick, easy, and FUN! More on [Texas PTA’s legislative priorities for the 87th session](#) can be found on their website.



Rally day is coming in February 2021! Rally day is the day PTA members from across Texas come to the state capital during the state Congress session to support the Texas PTA legislative priorities. This year it will be virtual. It's time to advocate for our community on the issues we care about and let our voices be heard. In preparation, Texas PTA has announced their 2020-21 Legislative Priorities.

As Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs Advocacy Committee is preparing for February 22nd Rally Day, we would like to know. What are your three most important priorities for the RRISD Community?

Please fill out this simple [form](#) to give your opinion.

The Council PTA Advocacy Committee thanks you for your input!

# Council PTA Highlights

## Helpful Training Information

by Jill Strode, VP of Training

Council of PTAs Round Rock ISD

As you transition from one month to the next, be sure to refer to your Bylaws, Standing Rules (if your PTA has them), and role specific resource guides that Texas PTA provides on their Local PTA Leaders

webpage: <https://www.txpta.org/local-ptaleaders>. You will also want to refer to any past binders and reference materials that your predecessor left for you. Many times there is a wealth of information provided that will help guide you to next steps to help you throughout the year.

Here are a few checklist items that presidents may find helpful. Many of these can be found in the President Resource Guide.

## January/February

- ☐ Ensure that the Sales Tax Return has been filed with the Texas Comptroller's office (due January 20 for most PTAs.)
- ☐ Celebrate National PTA Founders Day (February 17, 1897).
- ☐ Review the Local PTA Governance Guidelines Update regarding the Extension of Current Term that was emailed to Local Leaders on January 19 and confirm which board members are willing to extend their term of office. Follow the guidelines based on the majority of the executive board.
- ☐ At a membership meeting, elect a Nominating Committee and alternates as prescribed in the bylaws.
- ☐ Ensure that the Parliamentarian provides clear instructions and guidelines to the Nominating Committee.
- ☐ Promote and attend Texas PTA's bi-annual legislative session event, Rally Day in Austin

(odd-numbered years only). This year it will be virtual, but there are a lot of ways you can advocate before Rally Day on February 22. See the Advocacy update in this newsletter for more information.

- ☐ Review progress on the approved plans of work.
- ☐ Review progress on the FOUNDATIONS Essentials and FOUNDATIONS Basics
- ☐ Amend your budget as necessary

## Love Letters for Public Schools Email Campaign



Starting the first week of February, let your representatives hear from you about school funding reform, keeping public dollars in public schools, mental health, school safety, student assessment or other issues of concern. Check the Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs Facebook Page weekly for virtual email parties, templates and tools that make advocating for your concerns, quick, easy, and FUN!

Facebook LIVE Events With Your Representatives: Our community has 6 elected officials in the Texas House and Senate. We will be inviting all of them to join us on [Facebook](#) LIVE for individual conversations on what their educational legislative goals are for the 87th Session.

# Council PTA Highlights

## RRISD Council of PTAs Noel Grisham Scholarship

Noel Grisham was RRISD Superintendent from 1957-1979, for 22 years, and helped lay the foundation for RRISD to become the academically successful district it is today. Grisham oversaw the consolidation of RRISD and Pond Springs School District - located in the west side of Round Rock - and the construction of more than ten of the district's schools. Following his exit from public education, Grisham served as representative of Texas House of Representatives, District 52 during the 1983 state legislative session, serving on the House Committee on Public Education. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Round\\_Rock,\\_Texas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Round_Rock,_Texas)).



In his honor, each year, RRISD Council of PTAs awards one \$500 scholarship to a graduating student at each of our high school campuses - Cedar Ridge, Early College, McNeil, Round Rock, Stony Point, Success & Westwood.

Scholarship application will include:

1. Completing a resume listing school activities, community involvement, work experience, special awards and recognition throughout their high school career,
2. An essay, in 300 words or less, addressing the following: "Describe your contribution to PTA/PTSA. How has that

made a difference in your life or a difference in your school community?"

3. A complete counselor's report (weighted/unweighted GPAs, Class Rank (if applicable), SAT/ACT scores),
4. All of the above must be fully completed and submitted no later than March 31. Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

We encourage all high school PTSA's to promote this scholarship opportunity with your seniors and share it with your school counselors as well. Here is the link for the scholarship.

We are also seeking volunteers to serve on the Scholarship Committee. The committee will be appointed at the March executive board meeting and will be responsible for choosing the scholarship recipients. The committee will consist of at least 4 members; the Scholarship Chair, 3 readers and 1 alternate, none of whom may be a parent or guardian of a graduating senior. If a committee member is unable to fulfill their duties, a replacement will be chosen from the executive board. If you would like to serve on the Scholarship Committee, please contact Tangelia Pruitt at [scholarships@rrisdpta.org](mailto:scholarships@rrisdpta.org).

**RRISD Council of PTAs  
Delegate Luncheons**

**Friday, March 26, 2021  
Thursday, April 22, 2021**

# Council PTA Highlights

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Questionnaire

by Estevan “Chuy” Zarate

Diversity Chair, RRISD Council of PTAs

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are important. This is a great questionnaire put together by Carrie Bussie PTA in Savoy, IL. Use it to assess your PTA practices.

1. Does the PTA openly assess beliefs and practices to assure inclusiveness and guard against discrimination?
2. Does the PTA make every effort to create a PTA board and membership that is inclusive and reflective of its community?
3. Does the PTA encourage that all PTA activities at the school be planned by a committee which is representative of the population?
4. Does the PTA foster programs and practices that eliminate bias, prejudice and misunderstanding within their communities?
5. Is the PTA acquainted with the leaders of the many diverse groups in the community and does it collaborate with them to increase parent, family and community involvement?
6. Does the PTA educate its leaders and members to the needs, cultural beliefs, traditions and family structures of the population they serve?
7. Does the PTA propose change wherever discriminatory practices are perceived?
8. Does the PTA clearly communicate its goals so that families feel welcomed and that the work of the PTA is worthwhile, including why the PTA exists, what the PTA has achieved, what the PTA expects of its members, and how membership in PTA benefits themselves, their children, and the school community?
9. Does the PTA understand the diverse backgrounds of our school community?
10. What are the different cultural values of families in the community?
11. What languages other than English do families in our community speak?
12. What are some of the stigmas that could affect PTA involvement?
13. Does the PTA provide opportunities to ensure that parents get to know one another and learn more about the various things that are important to each of them, including opportunities for parents to expand their circles of acquaintances?
14. Does the PTA have a mechanism for knowing how the school environment is perceived within various segments of the school community?
15. Does the PTA provide materials or events in multiple languages? Are interpreters (professional interpreters or parent volunteers) available for those whose first language is a language other than English?
16. Does our PTA have members who complete PTA training sessions such as male engagement training, special needs training, cultural competence training (including e-learning), Spanish language training (including e-learning), or military family training?
17. Does the PTA take account of the various family arrangements when planning events?



## Council PTA Highlights

### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Questionnaire

(Continued from previous page)

18. Does the PTA conduct outreach, networking, and events focused on the specific needs and opportunities related to the circumstances of families with children in foster care; or inner-city urban, rural or suburban families; or immigrant, refugee or homeless families?

19. Does the PTA conduct outreach, networking, and events designed to engage Black, Latinx, and other minority families, families involved in foster care, and families with LGBTQ members?

20. Does the PTA make an effort to increase male presence and perspectives in PTA at all levels and in all activities?

21. Does the PTA address issues specific to families with children who have special needs, military families, and families with gifted children?

22. Does the PTA host or participate in diversity summits, town halls or community gatherings devoted to children's educational success and well-being?

23. Does the PTA develop advocacy initiatives addressing specific issues affecting PTA families?

24. Do PTA members attend Emerging Minority Leader or Diversity and Inclusion Conferences at the national or state levels?

25. Does the PTA participate in the Every Child in Focus campaign?

26. When establishing meeting dates, times, and locations, does the PTA consider accessibility to the entire school community?

27. Does the PTA communicate it's operational rules, including how decisions are made?

28. Does the PTA orient new members so they feel comfortable enough to participate?

29. Does the PTA have a workflow to receive and response to communication about inclusion, bias, or equity issues?

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### Reflections 2020: A Success!

by Monica Welch Reflections Chair  
RRISD Council of PTAs

Get ready for the the results for \*314\* Council Level Reflections entries from \*30\* schools!



Sponsored by WHATABURGER

In true 2020 fashion, remote judging took far longer than anticipated. Results from all judges have been compiled, and 28 top entries (1 per category, for each age group and special artists) are being advanced to TX PTA for State Level Judging in February. Our team is busy finalizing details to announce \*all\* 314 Council level awards so that schools can start honoring these amazing student artists.

The 2020-2021 Council Reflections Awards Ceremony will be REMOTE. We are working with the district to finalize a date and time, and will make an announcement as soon as it is confirmed.

Another huge thank you goes out to all chairs and judges, to our remote-judging technical crew, and to those who will be making our remote Awards Ceremony a fun and memorable event. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Council PTA Highlights

### February is Heart Health Month

By Kristen Hullum, MSN, RN  
Healthy Lifestyle's Chair  
RRISD Council of PTAs



While accurate statistics are a little difficult to determine since so many cases are undiagnosed, approximately 2% of all youth athletes

are thought to have a cardiac abnormality of some kind. Sadly, this is sometimes not discovered until that young athlete experiences a Sudden Cardiac Arrest, which is often fatal.

Thankfully, many of these serious cardiac conditions can be found with the proper screening of athletes – before a life-threatening event occurs.

If your child is physically active – whether in school or community sports – have them screened every single year. The American Heart Association recommends middle school and high school youth have an annual pre-participation cardiac specific screening with their pediatrician or family physician. This includes a personal history, family history and physical examination specific for cardiac concerns. If needed, the health care provider may refer the youth to a cardiologist for an electrocardiogram and additional testing.

Parents, guardians, coaches and athletic trainers can also help monitor young athletes for symptoms of cardiac abnormalities. Take your child to see a healthcare provider if they experience:

- Fainting or seizure after physical activity or

emotional excitement

- Chest discomfort, palpitations or “racing” heartbeat
- Unusual shortness of breath with minimal or no activity
- Unusual fatigue
- Dizziness or lightheadedness after physical activity

Be sure to also see your healthcare provider if there is a family history of sudden cardiac arrest prior to age 50, or any diagnosed congenital heart conditions.

For more information, visit [Heart.org](http://Heart.org)

**Conversations with a SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

Tuesday Evenings at 6 pm - [Zoom Link](https://zoom.us/j/95021840613?pwd=RDZPM3RlUeV04wczE3ZDZlZDZkdD09)

School counselors from across Round Rock ISD will be present at each session to discuss the various topics and answer questions from attendees.

**15 MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Transitioning from Middle School to High School November 3, 2020	Balancing School Work and Personal Time November 17, 2020	FAFSA/TASFA Presentation – Guest Presenter – December 1, 2020
FAFSA/TASFA Parent Support Sessions December 7-9 2020	Transitioning from Elementary to Middle School January 5, 2021	Building Healthy Relationships February 2, 2021
Staying Motivated March 2, 2021	Building Resiliency April 6, 2021	Transitioning to Life After High School May 4, 2021

Recordings available the next day on the [Round Rock ISD Counseling Services website](http://RoundRockISD.org/CounselingServices)  
\*Appointment required for FAFSA/TASFA Support. Make an appointment at: <http://bit.ly/rrisd-counselor-appoint>



# Council PTA Highlights

## Clothes Closet Update

by Cecilia Zapalac

Clothes Closet Chair

RRISD Council of PTAs

Despite having to modify how we get clothes to our students, the Clothes Closet has had a busy Fall. We ended the year having filled vouchers for 225 students across the district!

Thank you to everyone who has given donations or held sock and underwear drives. Both McNeil High School and Westwood High School did large sock and underwear drives with their feeder schools. Their contribution has replenished our stock until the end of the year.

We received a surprise donation, just before Thanksgiving, from the St. Vianney Church Knights of Columbus chapter 78. Just in time for all of the cold weather, their donation of new winter jackets has allowed us to include a new coat with every fulfillment.

Every donation makes a difference! We have also received various smaller donations of underwear and socks from church groups like St. Williams Youth Ministry, some school PTAs, and individuals in the community. Thank you to everyone!

Both Clothes Closets will remain closed to walk-in clients and volunteers; however, we will continue to fill electronic vouchers sent to us by the school counselors and nurses. If you have any questions please email me at [clothescloset@rrisdpta.org](mailto:clothescloset@rrisdpta.org). This is email is for both locations and is the only email that will reach us at the Clothes Closet.



**St. Vianney Knights of Columbus**



**Donations from Westwood PTA  
Coat Donations**



**Blackland Prairie Donation  
Catherine Harper, Dr Coquette Hamilton**



**Cecelia Zapalac with donations  
from McNeil**

# RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-

On behalf of the RRISD Council of PTAs, we would like to recognize the following PTA CommYOUity Partners:

## Platinum (\$1000 donation)

Individuals and/or businesses joined EVERY PTA in RRISD!



## Bronze (\$250 donation)

Individuals and/or businesses joined 3 PTAs in RRISD!

## Raise Your Hand Texas



Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs

### 2020-21 CommYOUity Partnership Program

Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs is thankful for the partnerships and the support provided by our local businesses. Council funds district-wide programs such as our local Clothes Closets, Senior Scholarships, Reflections, Parent Information sessions and workshops throughout the school year. With our partners' support, we are able to invest in the programs that benefit our schools, teachers, children and families in RRISD.

If you are interested in finding out more or have questions about these opportunities, please contact Randall Goltzman, Council PTA VP of Membership at [membership@rrisdpta.org](mailto:membership@rrisdpta.org)

CommYOUity Partnership Program	Platinum \$1000	Gold \$750	Silver \$500	Bronze \$250
Miraculous CommYOUity Memberships	*	*	*	*
Certificate for your business to display	*	*	*	*
CommYOUity decal for your business to display	*	*	*	*
Logo on Council website Partner page	*	*	*	*
Showout on Council social media pages	*	*	*	*
Logo on monthly newsletters	*	*	*	*
Website link, contact information & byline included with logo on Partner page	*	*	*	*
2 min. informational at Delegate Meeting	*	*	*	*
Logo on Council website Home page	*	*	*	*

\* Some opportunities may be available throughout the year depending on virtually present learning.

### PLATINUM PARTNER \$1000

- 2 minute informational at one virtual Delegate Meeting
- Logo on Council website Home page
- Website link, contact & byline included with logo on Partner page
- Full page ad/logo in our newsletters
- Showout on Council social media pages (FB, IG, Twitter)
- Logo on Council website Partner Page
- CommYOUity Partner decal for your business to display
- Platinum Partner Certificate for your business to display
- Miraculous CommYOUity Membership to ALL 53 PTAs

### GOLD PARTNER \$750

- Website link, contact & byline included with logo on Partner page
- 1/2 page ad/logo in our newsletters
- Showout on Council social media pages (FB, IG, Twitter)
- Logo on Council website Partner Page
- CommYOUity Partner decal for your business to display
- Gold Partner Certificate for your business to display
- Miraculous CommYOUity Membership to our 17 PTAs in need

### SILVER PARTNER \$500

- 1/4 page ad/logo in our newsletters
- Showout on Council social media pages (FB, IG, Twitter)
- Logo on Council website Partner Page
- CommYOUity Partner decal for your business to display
- Silver Partner Certificate for your business to display
- Miraculous CommYOUity Membership to 7 PTAs of your choice

### BRONZE PARTNER \$250

- Showout on Council social media pages (FB, IG, Twitter)
- Logo on Council website Partner Page
- CommYOUity Partner decal for your business to display
- Bronze Partner Certificate for your business to display
- Miraculous CommYOUity Membership to 3 PTAs of your choice

Please complete this section and mail it to: RRISD Council of PTAs, PO Box 1746, Round Rock, TX 78686 or visit our online store at [www.rrisdpta.org](http://www.rrisdpta.org)

Name(s):	Cell:
Business Name:	
Email:	Website:
Partnership Level:	

Become a CommYOUity Partner and receive the benefits below.

For more information email

Randall Goltzman, Council PTA VP of membership at  
[membership@rrisdpta.org](mailto:membership@rrisdpta.org)

## Local PTA News/Spotlights

### Blackland Prairie PTA

- Completed our fall fundraiser of an Apex Virtual Fitness Remix and raised over \$28,000!
- Voted in a new Board Position for a chair of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Had a drive-through holiday experience with lights and inflatables, giving out baggies of holiday cheer for our BPE families.
- December 17th was a bittersweet day on the Prairie. We celebrated Nurse Clara's retirement after serving at Blackland Prairie Elementary for 19 years. There was a wonderfully long surprise drive-by good-bye parade.
- Preparing now for our spring fundraiser, and how we will have our carnival virtual this year.



### Cactus Ranch PTA

- The Cactus Ranch PTA has been focusing on Staff Appreciation to help support our wonderful teachers and staff in this crazy year. In December, the teachers were treated to custom boxed lunches from The Corner Bakery and this month we have a coffee truck scheduled to come to campus. We love our teachers and staff!

### Canyon Creek PTA

- For the Spring, we are continuing Yoga, Chess, and Mandarin virtual classes. SKY School (our Yoga partner) offered a session to our teachers and staff on their professional development day and everyone enjoyed it.
- We are continuing our monthly virtual Family Craft Night to bring the CCE community together. For November families made a "Thankful Turkey" and in December folks made a snowman. The December one was so popular, we had to have two nights to accommodate all the participants.
- This year's Brown Santa drive at CCE was a HUGE success! In total, we received 277 toy and food items and \$485.00 in monetary donations made directly to Brown Santa by the CCE community! In addition, we received dozens of coats that will be donated to the RRISD Clothing Closet that will go to children within the RRISD community in need.
- For our Teacher/Staff Appreciation, CCE PTA gave out a "cornucopia" of sweet treats (Nov) and goodie bags with gift card, hand sanitizer, and a sweet treat (Dec.). All of which was greatly welcomed by our teachers, administration, and staff.
- CCE PTA is working hard to figure out a safe, socially distant and likely virtual version of our Multicultural Fair.
- CCE PTA is getting our Nominating Committee going in order to secure our 2021-22 PTA officers.
- CCE Comets submitted their science projects on January 12 for the Science Fair.



## Local PTA News/Spotlights

### Chandler Oaks PTA

- Every year the COE PTA offers teachers the Back-to-School Grants. Teachers can be reimbursed for up to \$50 for supplies they need in their classes. COE PTA has reimbursed a total of \$1,257.44 in Back-to-School Grants this year to our wonderful teachers.
- COE PTA kicked off our Spring Teacher Mini Grant program at the beginning of January. We are excited to purchase innovative and unique items for our amazing teachers and students. We will announce our winners at the end of January.
- Our new book list program is off to a great start! Each month we highlight books available in our COE library and digitally from COE library resources that reflect and honor the lives of all young people. In January we shared books that celebrate all types of families. Later in the year we'll be celebrating Black History Month, Women's History Month, People with Disabilities, and Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.
- We love showing our teachers and staff our appreciation. In December we sent staff home with a gift of cookies. In January we are gifting them with items that will keep them warm. Each month we are coming up with fun and creative ways to make sure they know they are appreciated!
- our weekly Shoesday Tuesday events.
- We launched our senior scholarship on December 1. Applications are due March 31 and two recipients will be selected by the end of April.
- We will be submitting more memberships by the end of January and are proud to mention that we will earn the Welcome Back membership award. We are continuing to promote membership through the rest of the school year.
- Our executive board will meet at the end of this month to discuss the option to extend our current terms for the upcoming 2021-22 school year.
- We continue to think of ideas on how we can provide appreciation events to our teachers and staff as they work diligently to help our students stay on top of their assignments.
- We want to give a special shout out to our Raider families for the outpouring support and donations we received for our S.N.A.C.K. (Serving Needs And Caring for Kids) program that helps our students who are in transition. Each of our F.I.T. students went home with an OVERFLOWING bag of food and hygiene items over the Thanksgiving holiday break! Our next donation will occur before Spring Break and then before Summer Break.

### Cedar Ridge PTSA

- Our shoe drive with Funds2Orgs was a huge success! We collected 4825 pairs of shoes that will help create and maintain micro-businesses in communities around the world. Students received Raiders in Action hours for every 10 pairs of shoes they collected and donated. We also had dedicated student and adult volunteers that helped us count, sort and bag shoes during

### Social Media Tip

When asking members for photos be sure to include the following disclaimer:

*Photo/Video Release: Please note that by submitting your photo/video to [insert PTA name], you give [insert PTA name] the permission to use it on the [insert PTA name] website, newsletter, social media outlets, or any other [insert PTA name] communication channels.*

## Local PTA News/Spotlights

### Great Oaks PTA

- Great Oaks Elementary PTA, with support from Principal Heath Frazer, celebrated that Readers are Leaders with a fall read-a-thon. School teachers and staff were incredibly supportive, encouraging on-campus and at-home students to pick books, giving extra reading time as incentives to the class, and sharing information with all students (emailing parents in ways that PTA volunteers can't). The event commenced with hats-off to reading and followed by reading will knock your socks off --two fun theme days that incorporated participation from virtual and on-campus learners. The PTA Facebook page kept everybody updated on the goal and motivated parents to help their kids log their minutes each day into a Google Form.
- 472 total students logged 266,735 minutes over 20 days, that included Thanksgiving break. Every participant got a certificate; virtual learners were welcome to come to campus to pick up prizes. The top individuals and top classes for both minutes read and donations raised received small awards. To make it fair for both on-campus and virtual classes, which really vary in size, classroom prizes were based on the average number of minutes read per class, not the total.
- PTA volunteers dug through a storage bin to find leftover prizes from last spring's carnival (which was cancelled) and used them as part of the classroom prizes and solicited small donations of prizes, to stretch their \$200 budget into a fundraiser that brought in \$5000 over the goal. Because volunteers ran the program, instead of contracting with an outside company, and thanks to classroom supplies provided by the principal, the only real costs were

two larger student prizes and credit card processing fees. The Great Oaks campus underwent changes last summer to accommodate a boundary change -- with new portables and new classroom teachers added. The funds raised help the GOE PTA make improvements to the outdoor campus areas that were disrupted by the changes, and support teachers adapting to new classrooms in this wild year.

### Grisham PTA

- Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the families of Grisham Middle School PTA have rallied together to serve and support our school community.
- In the fall semester, GMSPTA received a grant from the national PTA to address food insecurity. The grant, combined with funds donated by our Grisham community, supplied 224 Full Cart food boxes to Grisham families in need--each box contains one month of meals for a family of four!
- In addition to showing compassion and support to our students and families, Grisham PTA's hospitality committee has been working hard to make sure our wonderful faculty are well fed, too! From welcome back snack bags, to Central Market and Olive Garden boxed lunches, to Thanksgiving pies--Grisham PTA loves our teachers and will continue to find a way to show them love and appreciation during this unusual year.

**YOUR DADS CAN STILL HELP.  
NOW MORE THAN EVER.**



- Health Ambassador
- Remind Students about masks and distance
- Help with bus and car rider drop-off and pick-up
- Help teachers and students at recess
- Model healthy behavior

## Local PTA News/Spotlights

### RROC PTA

- Happy New Year from the RROC PTA!! We hope you are staying safe and staying well.
  - With the help of community donations, our PTA was able to provide holiday resource bags to our students just as school was dismissed for winter break. These bags were filled with snacks, drinks, candy, dental hygiene kits, hand sanitizer, masks, games and much more!!! BIG BIG THANK YOU's to RRISD PIEF, Smile Orthodontics, the employees at Precision Podiatry, Faught Family Dentistry and a few very generous PTA community members!!!
  - We were also able to give each RROC employee a holiday survival kit. It included: a mask, sanitizer, a candy cane, a holiday cake and the most important item needed for "survival" .... CHOCOLATE!
  - As we welcomed teachers into 2021, we were able to host a faculty appreciation event, where social distancing and safety measures were in place. We had Taco Libre cater a taco luncheon, where we served folks outside and they ate in their classrooms. A bonus was that the owner of Taco Libre, Luis Ramirez, is a Stony Point graduate, and attended the RROC! Now he is a successful entrepreneur. He enjoyed being able to reconnect with his first teacher at the RROC.
  - Please consider joining our PTA electronically at JoinPTA.org. Dues are \$10. We rely heavily on community memberships to do amazing things for our campus! #EVERYONECANPTA
- speed ever since.
- We established our Phoenix Community Sponsorship program and received our first sponsorship from Julie Burton with Willow Real Estate. This program will be a great way for us to partner with community members and businesses to help enhance programs that are offered at Success!
  - We formed our Bylaws & Standing Rules committee to make a few changes to our Bylaws and to create Standing Rules - both of these will be voted on at our membership meeting in February.
  - We held a Special Member Meeting in January to accept our Financial Reconciliation, present budget amendments, present bylaws changes, and share the vision and opportunities of our PTSA
  - We have a few faculty appreciation events coming up to shower our teachers and staff for the spring semester!
  - We are hosting a Path to Equity Community Collaborative with the RRISD Equity Task Force on February 3 from 6:30-8:00. All community members are invited to attend. Please Register here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAsd-utrZluEtVcvZiGk9v0MhFk29k1o92h>
  - Please consider supporting Success High School PTSA by joining today! Membership is \$10 and you can join by searching for Round Rock ISD and then Success High School. [www.joinpta.org](http://www.joinpta.org)

### Success PTSA

- Success High School PTSA held elections in November and we have been picking up





## Local PTA News/Spotlights

### Walsh PTA

- In addition to Cookies and Cocoa for the teachers, Walsh PTA adopted teachers for the month of December and showered them with weekly gifts. The teachers were very appreciative of this gesture.

### Wells Branch PTA

- Held a forum at Dec 8 WBE PTA virtual meeting with District 50 Texas House Rep Celia Israel.
- On January 12 WBE PTA held virtual forum/meeting with RRISD Trustee Tifanie Harrison
- Using PTA funds to help supplement lost book fair income for library resources and curriculum supplies, like BrainPop.
- We have begun planning for a virtual Spring fundraiser again in place of our traditional SpringFest.

### Westwood PTSA

- Westwood PTSA has released their “I wish I had known” recorded program which is the first of their Adulting series. Past Alumni from WW respond to questions that were compiled from a survey the PTSA sent out to students and community members. Thank you to Heather Lawrence our VP of programs for her perseverance on this program! We also have a waffle truck scheduled to come and feed our teachers and staff at the end of the month.



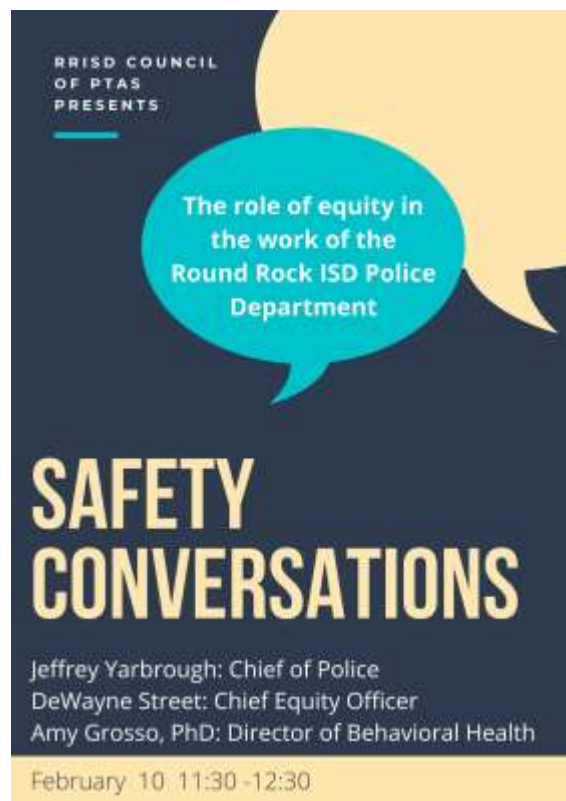
#YouCanPTA



**The Jan Harpe Domene Diversity and Inclusion Award recognizes PTAs that best demonstrate outstanding achievement in the areas of diversity and inclusion, as well as efforts to end discriminatory practices.**

**Share how your PTA has championed diversity & inclusion for a chance to WIN \$1,000!**

**For more information on this inclusivity and diversity award go [here](#).**



# RRISD Partners News and Tips

## Campus Walk

by Amy Grosso, PhD

Director of Behavioral Health Services  
Round Rock Independent School District  
Amy\_Grosso@roundrockisd.org

Three years ago, the Student Advisory Board held the first every AFSP Campus Walk. They wanted to bring awareness to mental health and suicide. It was a great event reflecting hope and community. The money raised from the walk was reinvested back in the district through professional development, specifically Mental Health First Aid – Youth.

For the third year, the School Health Advisory Council will host the walk. Because of current limits on in-person events and to ensure safety, the walk will be. We will be hosting a drive-through event at Stony Point High School on April 24. There is no cost to register, but you can fundraise. Walk as an individual, or form a team and recruit others to join! All information can be found at: <https://afsp.org/roundrockisd>. If you have questions please contact Amy Grosso, [amy\\_grosso@roundrockisd.org](mailto:amy_grosso@roundrockisd.org) or 512-464-5976.

2020-2021

### Online Family Connections



## Home School Families

Linking families with their children's education through online sessions, workshops, videos and more

<b>Early Literacy - PreK/K</b> Laying a strong foundation for learning LIVE SESSIONS, TIPS & VIDEOS October - April	<b>Building Resilient Kids - PreK-8th</b> Strategies to strengthen your child's emotional intelligence LIVE SESSIONS, VIDEOS & MORE November - April
<b>Early Math Skills - PreK/K</b> Raise confidence and reinforce the learning at home LIVE SESSIONS November - April	<b>Digital Citizenship - K-8th</b> Be safe and smart in the virtual world LIVE SESSIONS, TIPS, VIDEOS December - May
<b>Writing Skills - "Prose Pros"</b> Anyone can be a writer. Let's sharpen those skills and fall in love with writing. VIDEOS & TIPS November - January	<b>Transitions - 5th &amp; 8th</b> Getting ready for middle and high school LIVE SESSION & PARENT GUIDE December 8

Scan to register  
<https://tinyurl.com/rrisdparentprogram>

Questions? Email us at  
[parent\\_programs@roundrockisd.org](mailto:parent_programs@roundrockisd.org)



ROUND ROCK ISD  
PARENT PROGRAMS



Check out the Podcast [Here](#)

# RRISD Partners News and Tips

## Tour the Academies Online

Submitted by Lisa Roebuck

Director of Fine Arts, RRISD

This spring semester will bring many exciting opportunities for you, including registering for high school. One such opportunity is to make your required high school Academy selection, and we are including the 2021-22 High School Academies brochure to help you.

Round Rock ISD high school Academies offer specialized programs with specific academic or theme-based focus, which serve students based on their interest and/or talents. By completing an Academy, a student has the opportunity to explore an area of interest in greater depth with the help of specifically selected teachers, the support of appropriate advanced technology, and interaction with students who share common interests.

In addition to selecting your Academy, you will have conversations with Round Rock ISD counselors about your four-year plan, as well as courses needed to meet the state graduation requirement for an endorsement. Our Academy programs of study are a sequence of four or more credits that align with the state endorsement so through completing the Academy you earn both and are eligible for an Academy graduation stole. (There are also additional ways to earn non-Academy endorsements, listed on pages 22-23 of the brochure.)

As you look through the Academy choices, consider the Interest Inventory you took on the Eduthings website (rrisd-students.ctecoding.com). (NOTE: Students

are able to login to the site with their school Gmail and password, more information on page 25 of the brochure.) What careers did the inventory suggest for you? We encourage you to choose an Academy program of study that would allow you to take several courses in that field or in another field that interests you. If you do this, you will have a better idea about what you want to study after high school. The interest inventory is free, so try again if you like. Discuss the results with your parents, and then start thinking about your Academy choice. When you sign up for high school courses with a counselor, you will let them know the Academy you have chosen.

We encourage you to visit our Academies website: <https://cte.roundrockisd.org/campus-cteacademy-websites/>. Here you will find an electronic copy of the brochure and by January 13, a series of videos, broken down by high school and academy, teaching you more about the programs offered.

Respectfully,

Mandy Estes

Chief of Teaching and Learning





## RRISD Partners News and Tips

### Online Enrichment Classes



### [Register now for new online enrichment classes!](#)

- After-school activities held virtually
- Classes are hands-on and interactive
- Prices starting as low as \$10.00 per class
- Classes for students in grades K - 12
- Most spring classes start January 25th
- Most classes are held for 6-12 weeks

When hand washing is not available, use hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol.

Please monitor your own health before going into the public daily and take symptoms seriously. It can be difficult to differentiate between what seems like benign allergy-like symptoms in this area during the height of allergy season, so please consult with your physician for questions.

If you are interested in obtaining a COVID test, please see COVID-19 Test Sites to enter your zip code and find a location near you. To report a positive/probable student case or that your student is a close contact, please contact your campus. It is through the cooperation of our families that we can have the information we need to keep our schools safe. Thank you for your help in these efforts!

### COVID-19 Update

By Brandy Hafner, RN BSN

Director of Health Services, RRISD

COVID-19 cases continue to rise in both Travis and Williamson counties. It is more important than ever to follow the guidance of our federal, state, and local health authorities to keep our families and community safe. Here are some simple tips to follow:

When possible, put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.

Hand hygiene is important, but so is covering a cough or sneeze and wearing a mask appropriately over your nose and mouth.



### Meeting Link

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAsd-utrzIuEtVcvZiGk9v0MhFk29k1o92h>

## RRISD Partners News and Tips



**2/16/21**

**Career Exploration**

**3/23/21**

**Apprenticeships: How  
They Work and How You  
Find One**

**3/23/21**

**The Real Deal: Job Shad-  
owing & Internships**

**4/20/21**

**College Admissions Panel**

**4/20/21**

**Banking Basics**

For more information and to  
sign up visit:

<https://communityeducation.rockisland.org/future-readiness-parent-seminars/>

### February Observances

- 2/1 National Freedom Day
- 2/2 National Groundhog Day
- 2/3 National Girls and Women in Sports Day
- 2/4 National Thank a Mail Carrier Day
- 2/5 National Wear Red Day
- 2/8 National Fly a Kite Day
- 2/10 Safer Internet Day
- 2/11 National Inventor's Day
- 2/13 Global Movie Day
- 2/14 Valentine's Day
- 2/15 President's Day
- 2/16 Mardi Gras
- 2/17 National Random Acts of Kindness Day
- 2/25 Digital Learning Day
- 2/27 Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day

2/1-2/5 Children Author and Illustrator's Day

2/1-2/5 National Counseling Week

2/7-2/14 Congenital Heart Failure Week

2/8-2/12 Crossing Guard Appreciation Week

2/15-2/21 Random Acts of Kindness Week

2/22-2/28 National Eating Disorders Awareness  
Week

- American Heart Month
- Black History Month
- Canned Food Month
- Career & Technical Education Month
- Financial Aid Awareness Month
- Library Lover's Month
- National Children's Dental Health Month
- Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month
- National Youth Leadership Month
- National Snack Food Month

# RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-



## ***School promotion opportunity: Fall Welcome Back Offer FREE KIDS' SUNDAE FOR ALL ROUND ROCK ISD STUDENTS***

### THE OFFER

***Andy's Frozen Custard in Round Rock would like to offer ALL students of Round Rock ISD a FREE Kids' Sundae!***

School is back in session and it's time for a break... a family break at Andy's that is! Load up the kiddos, head to Andy's, pop the tailgate or bring some lawn chairs to enjoy the world's finest frozen custard under the bright lights and Texas stars!

### HOW IT WORKS

Download the Andy's app and use promo code 'RROCKISD' at sign-up to receive their free Kids' Sundae! Families have from 10/26/2020 to 11/8/2020 to download app and enter promo code. Free treats will be loaded to accounts on 11/9/2020.

#### **Download App Now!**

iOS: <https://bit.ly/Andysapp>

Google: <https://bit.ly/Andysgoogle>

DOWNLOAD  
APP!



CODE  
RROCKISD

DOWNLOAD PROMO  
10/26/20 – 11/8/20

FREE TREATS  
ADDED  
11/9/2020

### HOW TO PROMOTE

[Click Here for ideas on how to promote.](#)

#### **Assets available for promotion**

- Flyer / eBlast graphic
- Social media posts

*For either external or internal promotional platforms*

- Initial promo post
- Thank you Andy's / Reminder to Download
- 5 Days / Last call for free treat post
- Enjoy! Free Treats Added – Redeem Now!

### FOR EXISTING APP USERS

For families that already have the Andy's app or have multiple students – send an email to [customerservicectx@eatandys.com](mailto:customerservicectx@eatandys.com) with subject line 'RROCKISD' and Andy's will make sure to get account loaded with the free Kids' Sundae!



## RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-



PARTNERS IN EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION  
ROUND ROCK ISD

# 2021 Gala PTA Basket CONTEST

*Join Us Under the Lights*

*~ April 24, 2021 ~*

## WIN CASH FOR YOUR PTA/CAMPUS

### Contest Prizes include:

*~ Overall Winner ~*

*~ One Winner per Learning Community ~*

**Build the best gift basket to auction off at the  
20th Annual Shining Stars Gala**

**Basket Contest will be based on  
Creativity & Appearance**

**Basket entries must be submitted to the  
PIEF Office by Friday, March 26, 2021 @ 5pm  
(595 Round Rock West Dr, Suite 404, Round Rock, TX 78681)**

**Winners Announced April 22 at the  
PTA Delegate Meeting**

**1st  
Prize**

## OVERALL WINNER

**TOP  
Prize**

**Cedar Ridge  
Learning Community**

**TOP  
Prize**

**McNeil  
Learning Community**

**TOP  
Prize**

**Round Rock  
Learning Community**

**TOP  
Prize**

**Stony Point  
Learning Community**

**TOP  
Prize**

**Westwood  
Learning Community**

**For more information, contact**

**Melissa Schmalbach @ (512)464-5600**

**[Melissa\\_Schmalbach@rrisdeducationfoundation.org](mailto:Melissa_Schmalbach@rrisdeducationfoundation.org)**

## RRISD PTA CommYOUunity Part-



### SNACKS THAT GIVE BACK FRIOS PARTNERS WITH SCHOOLS!

"We started offering Frios at our school, and it's the best fundraiser we've ever had. We all look forward to enjoying a Frios pop, and love that it helps our school, too!"

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

#### WHY FRIOS GOURMET POPS?

- Frios gives back 20% to schools
- Frios is a safe, prepackaged product to enjoy in a COVID world
- Frios is fast to serve! Kids can enjoy their treat and get back focused on learning.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa & Michael Brown  
P: 512.300.8292 • [pville@friospops.com](mailto:pville@friospops.com)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram - @friospflugerville



## RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-

### JODY ALLEN REALTOR®

#### *About Me:*

*I am a fifth-generation Texan and have lived in the Round Rock/Austin area since 1989. Although not born here, I got here as fast as I could.*

*Having graduated from Westwood High School, attended Texas State University (back then better known as Southwest Texas State), and being a resident of the Austin area for several decades, I have my finger on the pulse of the local community!*

*I have been in the real estate space since 2006. First starting out as a loan officer with residential lending and then transitioning into an Investor and now a licensed REALTOR® with All City Real Estate. My network of contacts in the real estate world is second to none.*

*With my go-getter attitude, honesty, and eagerness to help others, I am the ideal agent to assist in all your real estate goals.*

*Whatever the need, I will go the extra mile for you as my client.*

## I WILL DONATE 15% BACK TO PTA!

As a partner with RRISD PTA, I will donate 15% of my broker fees back to the PTA of your choice!

That's right! With any referral from my fellow PTA members, we will be giving back to our children's future! It can be Yourself, Relative, Neighbors, Co-workers, etc.

Anyone that is referred my way through a PTA contact will qualify for the donation!

Call or Text me today  
to discuss!

512-736-JODY (5639)

# JA

#736JODY #JODYALLENREALTOR

ALL CITY  
REAL ESTATE

### CONTACT JODY

512-736-JODY (5639)

Jody@736Jody.com

#736JODY

@JodyAllenRealtor



## RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-



### FREE KIDS MEAL!

1 FREE Kid's meal, when you dine-in at Sortino's Italian Kitchen, Cinco Niños, Double Cut Steakhouse or B-Lux Grill & Bar.

Valid 7 days of the week. Expires May 31, 2021. Excludes all major holidays and holiday weekends. Dates are subject to availability and management discretion. Coupon must be displayed and presented to the server prior to paying. Adult meal must be purchased in order to receive 1 free Kid's Meal from the Children's Menu. Single use and only one per table. You will need to show proof of being a Round Rock ISD teacher or in the PTA. No cash value. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Valid at Round Rock, TX location only.

### ROUND ROCK ISD TEACHER TUESDAY!

Teachers receive a 15% discount on food in our signature outlets: Sortino's Italian Kitchen, Cinco Niños, Double Cut Steakhouse or B-Lux Grill & Bar.

Valid 7 days of the week for ONE PERSON ONLY. Expires May 31, 2021. Excludes all major holidays and holiday weekends. Dates are subject to availability and management discretion. Coupon must be displayed and presented to the server prior to paying. Excludes all drinks. Single use and only one per table. You will need to show proof of being a Round Rock ISD teacher or in the PTA. No cash value. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Valid at Round Rock, TX location only.

## WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO JUST FOR THE DAY?

A WHOLE LOT. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU.



[WWW.KALAHARIRESORTS.COM/TEXAS](http://WWW.KALAHARIRESORTS.COM/TEXAS)



## RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-

**PIZZA DELIGHT**

ROUND ROCK

**BEST WINGS  
BEST OF  
ROUND ROCK  
2019  
WINNER**

**6 FREE Wings**

**\*Online Only\***

[www.PizzaDelightTX.com](http://www.PizzaDelightTX.com)

PROMO CODE: **FebPTAFreeWings**

\$7.00 Value

PROMOTION EXPIRES: 2/28/2021

VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS

**Edward Youmans**



## RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-



  
**apex virtual**  
safe • effective • flexible fundraising

*\*if the school allows it,  
we still offer our incredible  
on-campus experience,  
or even a hybrid of the two!*

**REIMAGINE YOUR  
NEXT FUNDRAISER  
WITH APEX VIRTUAL**

**A safe and effective full-service fundraising solution  
that can be adapted to any situation**

### CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

Perfect for distance learning, hybrid models, and everything in between.



#### ADAPTABLE

Apex Virtual is adaptable to any model of learning to ensure your school has a safe and successful experience.



#### ALL-INCLUSIVE

All students, on campus and at home, are included in every aspect of the leadership program and our celebratory fitness event.



#### CONTACTLESS

Apex's superior pledging site and technology allows fundraising to be sensitive, far-reaching, and completely contactless.



## RRISD PTA CommYOUity Part-



**Based in Austin, TX we are a true homegrown printing company that now serves the entire US, but we don't forget or local customers and relationships we forged from the beginning.**

**600+ companies/organizations and over a million customers trust and depend on BuildASign as partners to fulfill their different printing needs.**

David Curry  
Enterprise Sales Manager  
[david.curry@buildasign.com](mailto:david.curry@buildasign.com)



# RRISD PTA CommYOUity Mem-

## Marvelous Platinum CommYOUity Members

(Joined all PTAs)

Dart 'Em UP

## Marvelous CommYOUity Members

(Joined 3 PTAs)

Michelle Stanley  
Lisa Shultz



**Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs**  
**Marvelous CommYOUity Membership Program**

As a Marvelous CommYOUity PTA Member, you support our mission to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

As a Marvelous CommYOUity PTA Member, you will receive a certificate to proudly hang in your home, office, or business; a window decal for your car or business window; and acknowledgement at our delegate meeting, website & newsletter. Local PTAs may choose to honor you as well!

To be a Marvelous CommYOUity PTA Member join at least 3 local PTAs of your choice. You also have the opportunity to select any of the Marvelous CommYOUity Membership packages listed below.

Marvelous CommYOUity Membership Packages	
Platinum (Join ALL PTAs)	\$460.00
Gold (Join 17 PTAs in Need of Community Support - look for *)	\$124.50
Silver (Join 10 PTAs of Your Choice - price based on PTAs selected)	
Bronze (Join 5 PTAs of Your Choice - price based on PTAs selected)	
Alternative Packages (ECHO, RRDC, Soccer - look for +)	\$30.00
Dragons (Join RRHS + 14 RRHS Feeder Schools - look for [R])	\$122.00
Mavericks (Join MHS + 14 MHS Feeder Schools - look for [M])	\$132.50
Warriors (Join CHS + 8 CHS Feeder Schools - look for [C])	\$72.50
Tigers (Join SHS + 10 SHS Feeder Schools - look for [S])	\$94.50
Warriors (Join WHS + 9 WHS Feeder Schools - look for [W])	\$88.50

Please mail this form to RRISD Council of PTAs, PO Box 1746, Round Rock, 78660 or visit our online store at [www.rrisdpta.org](http://www.rrisdpta.org). If you have questions, contact Randall Goltzman, VP Membership, at [membership@rrisdpta.org](mailto:membership@rrisdpta.org).

Elementary Schools			
Anderson MS* (M/W)	\$1.50	Griffin (C)	\$33.00
Barkman (C)	\$7.00	Great Oaks (R)	\$8.00
Blackland Prairie (C)	\$6.00	Harrington (S)	\$55.00
Blanton* (R)	\$6.00	Joe Lee Johnson* (M/W)	\$8.00
Brushy Creek (M/W)	\$7.50	Jollyville (M/W)	\$7.00
Carlini Ranch (R)	\$7.00	Laurel Mountain (W)	\$6.00
Caldwell Heights* (S)	\$7.00	Live Oak* (W)	\$6.50
Callison (C)	\$7.00	Old Town (R)	\$8.00
Canyon Creek (W)	\$6.00	Pine Springs (W)	\$33.00
Caraway (W)	\$6.00	Purple Sage (M/W)	\$33.00
Chandler Oaks (S)	\$10.00	Robertson* (S)	\$7.00
Deep Wood (R)	\$7.50	Sommer (M/R)	\$8.00
Freddie Vile* (C)	\$7.50	Splinterwood (W)	\$33.00
Englewood (M/R)	\$10.00	Yerxa (S)	\$8.00
Foss Bluff (R)	\$7.00	Union Hill* (S)	\$6.00
Forest Creek (S)	\$6.00	Vaughn* (S)	\$6.50
Forest North* (M)	\$7.00	Wells Branch* (W)	\$8.00

Middle Schools			
C. D. Fuller* (C)	\$8.00	Hernandez* (S)	\$9.00
Carson Vista (W)	\$10.00	Hopewell (S)	\$33.00
Center Valley (M/R)	\$10.50	Peasano Ranch (W)	\$33.00
Chisholm Trail (R)	\$10.00	Ridgeview (S)	\$8.00
Deerpark* (W)	\$10.00	Walsh (R/S)	\$33.00
Northam (W)	\$13.00		

High Schools			
Center Ridge (S)	\$10.00	RR Opportunity Center +	\$33.00
Early College +	\$10.00	Stony Point (S)	\$33.00
McNeil (W)	\$10.00	Success +	\$33.00
Round Rock (R)	\$11.00	Westwood (W)	\$33.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you an Honorary Lifetime Member? Y/N

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Become a CommYOUity PTA Member with one of our Membership packages described below.

For more information email

Randall Goltzman, Council PTA VP of membership at  
[membership@rrisdpta.org](mailto:membership@rrisdpta.org)



## COUNCIL PTA PRIORITIES

- ◆ Support Local PTA Leader
- ◆ Conduct Business of the Council PTA
- ◆ Promote PTA

# Texas PTA Highlights



## Take Action

Students are still giving 100% during COVID-19, so should the state!

Texas PTA has joined with 22 other organizations asking Gov. Abbott to assure 100% ADA funding for the remainder of this school year. Funding would extend to both virtual and in-person learning. We strongly recommend that TEA guidance include a floor for ADA that does not allow any school district to fall below their final ADA count for the 2019-2020 school year.

The state gave funding assurance for the first 18 weeks of school but has yet to make a decision on the remaining weeks that follow winter break. The pandemic has yet to subside and attendance is still declining, yet the needs of our school districts are still great. A decrease in funding may lead to layoffs and impact the resources students rely upon every day.

We encourage our members to help us #FundTheFuture by contacting your legislators today. Follow this link to easily contact your legislators: <https://www.txpta.org/take-action>



## January 28, 12:00 PM [The Policy Issues](#)

A screening of the previously recorded webinar, The Policy Issues – a look at Texas PTA's legislative priorities for the 87th Texas Legislature which encompass: supporting student success, health and safety, meaningful assessment and accountability, and strengthening public schools.

Live Q&A with Texas PTA President Suzi Kennon, President-Elect Marisol Randle, and Executive Director Kyle Ward

## February 1, 12:00 PM [How to Advocate Before and During the Texas Legislative Session](#)

A screening of the previously recorded webinar, How to Advocate Before and During the Texas Legislative Session. A lot can be done from within your own community, far removed from the steps of the Capitol. Learn how to be a thunderous voice for Texas students!

Live Q&A with Texas PTA President Suzi Kennon, President-Elect Marisol Randle, and Executive Director Kyle Ward

To join BAND for Rally Day events go to:  
<https://www.txpta.org/rally-day>



# Texas PTA News & Tips



## TEXAS PTA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

87TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING SYSTEM REFORM

Maintain funding for all components of House Bill 3, the comprehensive public school legislation adopted by the 86th Texas Legislature.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING

Monitor TEA's Special Education Strategic Plan — corrective action taken after an investigation by the Department of Education.

#### DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY FOR ALL

Pursue legislation and funding to ensure all Texas public school students have digital connectivity and devices.

### HEALTH & SAFETY

#### SCHOOL SAFETY

Monitor school safety legislation, both implementation of laws enacted in 2019 and legislation filed in the 87th legislative session.

#### VAPING REGULATION AND FLAVOR BAN

Pursue passage of legislation to ban flavors in e-cigarettes and combustible tobacco, and to tax e-cigarettes; and increase the tax on traditional cigarettes.

### CYBERBULLYING

Monitor implementation of David's Law and any other legislation related to cyberbullying.

### STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

Monitor implementation of mental health legislation, including programs and services designed to help keep students mentally strong and prepared to cope, as well as systems to identify students in need of intervention. Monitor mental health legislation that is filed in the 87th legislative session.

### HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Support policies that reduce childhood obesity through education, healthy food choices, and physical activity.

### JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

Support legislation to increase the age of adult criminal responsibility from 17 to 18, and monitor funding for students in Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs.

### CAMPUS IMMUNIZATION REPORTING

Support legislation requiring school districts to report the number of unvaccinated students in each school so families can make the safest school-placement decision for medically vulnerable children.

### CHILD AND YOUTH TRAFFICKING

Support legislation that waives criminal responsibility for children and youth when criminal activity results from exploitation by a trafficker. Monitor the state's 2019 clemency initiative for victims of human trafficking.

### MEANINGFUL ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

#### A-F ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

Monitor legislation impacting the state's A-F system. Advocate for an accountability system that more broadly reviews school performance and includes a family engagement component.

### STATE ASSESSMENT

Advocate for reduced emphasis on state-mandated testing that penalizes the student rather than guide instruction and identify learning problems.

### STRENGTHEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#### KEEP PUBLIC DOLLARS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Oppose legislation that authorizes state funds be used to pay for private school tuition and related costs.

### LEGISLATION CAN'T WAIT ON A PANDEMIC



We might not know what Rally Day will look like quite yet, but one thing is for sure — when the Texas Legislature convenes for regular session in January, decisions will be made and laws will pass. The 87th legislative session will prove to be very decisive for our children and schools as our state still reels from a public health crisis. Next session, we need every possible Texan counted in PTA's thunderous voice. Let your community know: **#YouCanPTA**. If they're not sure where to start, invite your family, friends, and neighbors to visit [JoinPTA.org](http://JoinPTA.org) — joining made easy in a world gone virtual.



# Texas PTA News & Tips



## Local PTA Governance Guidelines Update: Extension of Term

**NEW! Extension of Term** First, the president must confirm which executive board\* members are willing to extend their 2020-2021 term of office by one year in the same position following the guidelines below.

- This shall be recorded in the official executive board meeting minutes, as "For the record, please state your name and position if you are willing to continue serving in the same position on executive board through fiscal year ending 2022."
- If less than a majority is willing to return in the same position, the nominating committee and elections shall continue per the PTA bylaws."
- If a majority of the executive board\* is willing to return in the same position, the matter must be approved at a membership meeting.
- After approval by the membership, the position of any person who does not desire to continue will be considered vacant and filled according to the bylaws.
- If the nominating committee has already been elected by membership, the executive board may allow the process to continue as outlined by the bylaws or may choose to follow the guidelines listed herein. In this case, a motion to dissolve the elected nominating committee must be approved at the same meeting where the membership approves the current executive board to continue through fiscal year ending 2022.

**Second, the membership must approve the extension of the executive board's term by a majority vote.**

- Meeting notice must follow the bylaws (if in person) or COVID-19 guidelines (if virtual).

- A notification of the vote must be posted a minimum of three days in advance. Sample notification of vote: "Due to the difficulties of COVID-19, Texas PTA has approved a one-time extension of the term of office by one year in the same position with membership approval. This item will be discussed and voted on at the meeting on [insert date, time, location]."
- The president will explain the option provided by Texas PTA and accept a motion. By recommendation of the executive board, I move to extend the term of the following executive board members and positions through fiscal year ending 2022, (and, if applicable) dissolve the nominating committee.
- If not approved by membership, the nominating committee and elections shall continue per the PTA bylaws.
- If approved by membership, all consenting executive board members would continue in their roles through fiscal year ending 2022.

## General Information

- Executive board composition is defined in the PTA bylaws.
- Majority is defined as more than half.
- The [\*] provision is exclusively for the elections of 2021-2022 fiscal year. This provision will not pertain to future elections, membership, any financial processes, requirements, or any other than these elections.

## Third Term

Leaders who are serving their second term in the same position may continue into a third term only for the fiscal year of 2021-2022, regardless of whether extending the term by membership approval or through the election process listed in the bylaws. Those serving their first term in 2020-2021 will not be allowed to serve a third term in the same position in 2022-2023.

# Texas PTA News & Tips



## LOCAL PTA MEMBERSHIP AWARDS 2020-2021

To qualify for each award, you must mail membership rosters and dues to Texas PTA postmarked by the listed deadline. In addition, members who join through JoinPTA.org prior to or within the deadline are added to the PTA's count. Track JoinPTA.org members through your PTAEZ account.  
[txpta.org/awards-grants](https://txpta.org/awards-grants)

### AUGUST

#### Head Start Award

Jump-start the PTA year with 75% or more of the previous year's total membership.  
**Deadline: August 31**

### SEPTEMBER

#### Early Bird Achievement Award

Reach 100% of the previous year's total membership!  
**Deadline: September 30**

### OCTOBER



#### Snappy Increase Award

Achieve more than 100% of the previous year.  
**Deadline: October 31**

### NOVEMBER



#### Three Year High Award

Show more than 100% of the previous year and reach a 3-year high in membership.  
**Deadline: November 30**

### DECEMBER

#### Shining Star Award

Stand out with more than 100% of the previous year and achieve Good Standing. Special recognition in the Superintendent's Report Card.  
**Deadline: December 19**



Get LAUNCH 2021 bling!

### JANUARY

#### Welcome Back Award

Keep up momentum with 10 new members.  
**January 1 – January 31**

### FEBRUARY

#### XOXO Award

Share the love of PTA with 14 new members.  
**February 1 – February 28**

### MARCH

#### Lucky Leprechaun Award

What's at the end of the PTA rainbow? 17 lucky new members!  
**March 1 – March 31**

### APRIL

#### April Showers Award

Don't get caught in the rain! Welcome 15 new members.  
**April 1 – April 30**

### MAY

#### May Flowers Award

Tend to your garden and watch it grow with 10 new members.  
**May 1 – May 31**

### JUNE

#### Membership Increase Award

Achieve more than 100% of the previous year.  
**Deadline: June 30**

## VOICE FOR EVERY CHILD AWARDS

Texas PTA's most prestigious membership award for Local PTAs that strive to have one voice for every child on their campus.  
**Deadline: June 30**



**Silver:** Recruit members equal to at least 50% of campus student enrollment.



**Gold:** Recruit members equal to at least 75% of campus student enrollment.



**Platinum:** Recruit members equal to at least 100% of campus student enrollment.

## SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARDS

### Golden Apple Award



Recruit 100% of school faculty as members.  
**Form deadline: February 28th**

*Texas PTA's definition of faculty is principals, assistant principals, teachers, counselors, and instructional assistants employed at the campus full-time.*

### Student Membership Award

Recruit at least 25 student members.  
**Form deadline: February 28th**

### Preschool, MARS (Men Are Really Super), Community, Generations Membership Awards

Recruit at least 50 members from any category to qualify for that award.  
**Form deadline: February 28th**

### Student, Preschool, MARS (Men Are Really Super), Community, Generations Involvement Awards

Appoint or elect one member from any category to serve on the Executive Board to qualify for that award.  
**Form deadline: February 28th**

## PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE A RETURN TO FUNDAMENTALS



Local PTAs that meet all of the following criteria will qualify for the 2020-2021 President's Challenge. *New: PTAs will be required to submit a form with their principal's signature.* **Deadline: June 30**

1. Meet with campus principal to set common goals.
2. Participate in the **back the future** campaign. *(Watch for more!)*
3. Host a family engagement program.
4. Have a membership increase.

# Texas PTA News & Tips

## Stay in Touch with Texas PTA

Sign up for one or more of Texas PTA Newsletters Here:  
<https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1768473/1715664/>

- √ General Interest Texas PTA
- √ Healthy Lifestyles Newsletter
- √ The Review (Arts in Education Newsletter)
- √ Under the Dome (Legislative Newsletter)

## Keep up with Texas PTA online Magazine



<https://thevoice.txpta.org/>

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## Two Ways to Share Your Ideas with Texas PTA

### Did you know that you can share your successes with Texas PTA?

Texas PTA is proud of the amazing programs and services offered by our Local and Council PTAs throughout the state!

One of the most important benefits of PTA is access to a strong network of innovative and successful PTA Leaders, and we're excited to collect and share some of the best success stories out there.

They're all the *Talk of Texas!*

Submit Here:

<https://fs1.formsite.com/txpta/form615/index.ht>

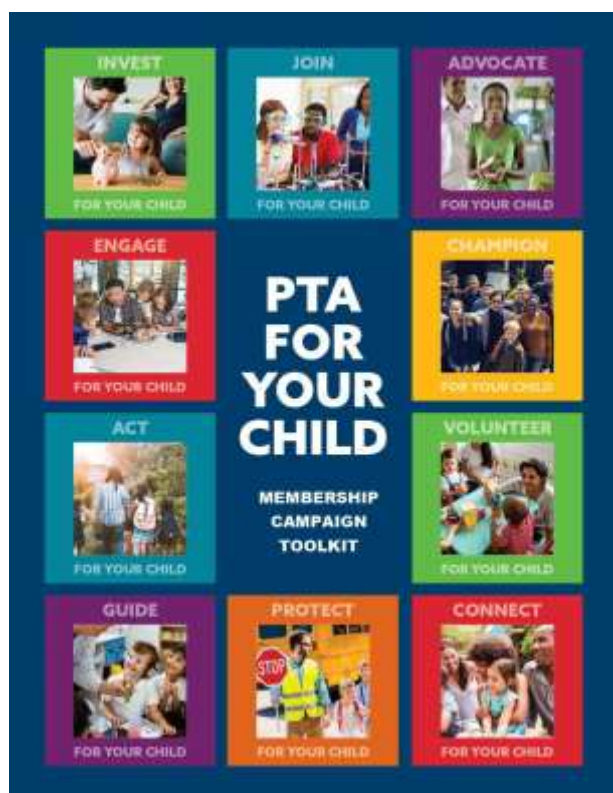




## National PTA News & Tips



### PTA is Speaking Up for You [PTA Letters to Policy Makers](#)



### [National PTA's Membership Campaign](#) ["PTA For Your Child"](#) [and Local Leader Kit](#)

Provides great ways to encourage Membership and spread the word about PTA's insightful work and resources.



Join in on a Learning Lab to engage with experts to get new and helpful ideas. Check out upcoming topics here

### Tips for making your PTA Virtual

- ✓ [Get Great Examples](#)
- ✓ [Leadership Training](#)
- ✓ [Grow Your Membership](#)
- ✓ [Easy Online Programs](#)
- ✓ [Socially Distanced Family Engagement](#)



[Check out the One Voice Blog](#)

One Voice





## National PTA News & Tips



### Real Experts. Real Parents. Real Conversations.

Take action for every child—register today for our virtual [Legislative Conference](#) on March 9-11. Network with fellow PTA advocates and participate in world-class advocacy training. Register by February 4 to participate in LegCon Hill Day, where you will virtually meet with members of Congress. [Register today!](#)



For over 120 years, National PTA has been encouraging families to get more involved in their child's education. National PTA's Take Your Family to School Week is designed to provide families with an opportunity to get more involved in their child's education and strengthen their partnerships with teachers and administrators. The timing of the week honors the day PTA was founded, Feb. 17, 1897.

Research shows that family engagement supports student success. Students with involved parents are more likely to earn higher grades and pass their classes, attend school regularly, have better social skills and go on to post secondary education.

Help us celebrate PTA's long legacy of family engagement during National PTA's Take Your Family to School Week—Feb. 14-21, 2021 by hosting a National PTA program with your school community. For more information visit [the Take Your Family to School Week program page](#).

## National PTA News & Tips



### Real Experts. Real Parents. Real Conversations.

We are excited to introduce—*Notes from the Backpack: A PTA Podcast* for busy parents (like you!) who have a lot to keep up with at home and throughout the school year.

Each 30-minute podcast will give you the inside scoop on how to help your child succeed in and out of school. You'll hear unique perspectives from experts, parents and educator guests who will give you real-life advice and ideas you can use!

Just search for "Notes from the Backpack" on your favorite podcast app and subscribe!

For more information visit: <https://www.pta.org/center-for-family-engagement/notes-from-the-backpack>

Be sure to check out “Raising Kids Who Embrace Race” Episode #33 which features Melissa Giraud and Andrew Grant-Thomas, founders of EmbraceRace.

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### Helpful Parent Resources available on the National PTA website.

- ♦ [Center for Family Engagement](#)
- ♦ [Parent Guide to Student Success](#)
  - ♦ [Family Guides](#)
- ♦ [College and Career Readiness](#)
  - ♦ [Health Tips](#)
  - ♦ [Safety News](#)
- ♦ [Special Education Toolkit](#)
- ♦ [Our Children Magazine](#)

# PTA Member Benefits



Gain access to discounts and benefits through your membership with Texas PTA! For details and discount codes, visit [txpta.org/member-perks](https://txpta.org/member-perks). Some restrictions may apply. For questions, contact Member Services at [memberservices@txpta.org](mailto:memberservices@txpta.org).



There's no better place to order flowers online than 1-800-Flowers.com. We have the highest quality blooms and the most talented florists who can create exactly what you order.



With special employee discounts and the highest levels of service, there's never been a better reason to rent with Avis! Save up to 25% off.



Better World Club is the country's only 24/7 pro-environmental club for autos, bikes, RVs, and motorcycles. Join for emergency roadside assistance and get a 15% discount!



Budget-Rent-A-Car is one of the leading, most trusted providers of affordable and reliable car rental for the value-minded consumer. Get up to 25% off!



Join Costco as a new member and receive exclusive coupons valued at \$60 including three FREE items.



Purchase monthly specials at a members-only price, or customize a system and save 7% on top of advertised prices.



Enterprise rent-a-car extends a 5-10% discount to all Texas PTA members on all rentals across the nation.



With Great Wolf Perks, Texas PTA members will receive up to 30% off room bookings.



Hertz offers savings and benefits wherever you rent — with 1,000 airport locations and over 1,000 locations across the country. Save up to 25% off.



Hotels.com has over 145,000 hotels in more than 60 countries. Whether you are traveling last minute as a family or need a hotel for business, we have the right hotel deal for you.



The HP Employee Purchase Program (EPP) offers HP consumer products at discounts, instant rebates, coupons, and HP Home & Home Office sales promotions!



Healthy habits start at home and Marathon Kids makes it simple, fun, and effective!



Save up to 35% on your Orlando vacation! Orlando Employee Discounts offers exclusive pricing on hotels and vacation homes in or nearby Disney World and Universal Studios Orlando. Discounts on other parks are also available. Visit [txpta.org/member-perks](https://txpta.org/member-perks) for a full list!



Discounts are available for admission, season passes, retail, food and beverage items, accommodations, and more.



Receive a substantial discount to Six Flags Over Texas! When you purchase your tickets online, you will have the chance to immediately access them.



Receive a discount on Texas Rangers tickets throughout the season!



Enjoy a discount at locations within Texas, flat rate for single or double occupancy rooms.

More discounts available through National PTA. Visit [PTA.org](https://pta.org) and navigate to Member Benefits under the "About PTA" tab.